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at the battle of Tippecanoe (p. 17), do not bear directly upon the narrative. The narrative is compact, an enormous mass of fact being included, but it is probable that a person unfamiliar with the course of events might complain that the important facts were not sufficiently distinguished. On the other hand, one of the strongest points is the treatment of the petty frontier forays, and possibly the truest impression to be left on the mind is one of confusion.

Particularly good is the discussion of Hull's surrender and of the battle of Plattsburg. The book is very carefully gotten out and includes eight maps, six of which are beautifully reproduced from Melish's "Military and Topographical Atlas of the United States, including the British Possessions and Florida," etc., of 1813. The style is good scientific prose, and there is a fair index.

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Reynolds, John S. *Reconstruction in South Carolina, 1865-1877.* Pp. 522.

Price, \$2.00. Columbia, S. C.: The State Company.

The main body of this work is more a chronicle than a history. Written in the midst of the state archives, and first published in a Columbia (S. C.) newspaper in instalments, dealing with the successive periods in sequence of legislative sessions, the book gives full annals of legislation, party conventions and campaigns, and all military, riotous or conspiratory occurrences which tended to affect the course of politics. The book is heavily documented with extracts of laws, platforms, addresses, reports and resolutions, lists of members, record of yeas and nays, etc. These weigh upon the narrative and make the reading tedious, especially in the first half of the work. With the closing period of reconstruction, however, the author seems to reach the field in which his own memory is more active and his interest more lively. The state campaign of 1876, in the discussion of which South Carolinians in general take great pride, is admirably treated. By virtue of the author's abundant personal knowledge and his zest, and a broadening of the treatment, the narrative is here presented, not only convincingly, as always, by force of proofs adduced, but with a sustained interest for the reader. The book is concluded with a chapter summarizing the spoliations by the radical government and a brief chapter of "reviews and reflections," which presents a strong analysis of the policies, personal equations, contests and transitions in reconstruction politics. The book is written on the whole with poise. The terms used are sometimes too strong, but in general the epithets are moderate and proven by the context to be justified. Little attention is given to anything not directly connected with politics.

From the substance of the book the strongest impression gained by the reviewer is that of the conservatism, saneness and insight usually exercised by the guiding South Carolina Democrats of the period, as contrasted with the fatuousness of such of the Republicans as had purposes beyond the

enjoyment of good pickings. A single generous quotation will suffice; and that, taken, not from the author's narrative, but from an address (quoted on pp. 90-91) by the Democratic convention in 1867 "to the colored people of South Carolina":

"Your present power must surely and soon pass from you. Nothing that it builds will stand and nothing will remain of it but the prejudices it may create. It is, therefore, a dangerous tool that you are handling. Your leaders, both white and black, are using your votes for nothing but their individual gain. . . . Offices and salaries for themselves are the height of their ambition, and so that they make hay while the sun shines they care not who is caught in the storm that follows. . . . What few enterprises are carried on are only the work of southern men who have faith that the present state of affairs is but temporary.

"We therefore urge and warn you, by all the ties of our former relations still strong and binding in thousands of cases, by a common Christianity and by the mutual welfare of our two races, whom Providence has thrown together, to beware of the course on which your leaders are urging you in a blind folly which will surely ruin both you and them.

"We do not pretend to be better friends to your race than we are to ourselves, and we only speak when we are not invited because your welfare concerns ours. If you destroy yourselves you injure us, and though but little as compared with the harm you will do yourselves, we would, if we could, avert the whole danger.

"We are not in any condition to make you any promises or to propose to you any compromises. We can do nothing but await the course of events—but this we do without the slightest apprehension or misgiving for ourselves. We shall not give up our country, and time will soon restore our control of it. But we earnestly caution you and beg you in the meanwhile to beware of the use you make of your temporary power. Remember that your race has nothing to gain and everything to lose if you invoke that prejudice of race which since the world was made has ever driven the weaker tribe to the wall. Forsake, then, the wicked and stupid men who would involve you in this folly and make to yourselves friends and not enemies of the white citizens of South Carolina."

Such documents as this are fairly characteristic of the book. This being true, its value as a contribution and a work of reference is established.

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Rhodes, James Ford. *History of the United States from the Compromise of 1850 to the Final Restoration of Home Rule at the South in 1877.* Vol. VI, pp. xx, 440; Vol. VII, pp. xiii, 430. Price, \$2.50 each. New York; The Macmillan Company, 1906.

These are the final volumes of a truly monumental work begun some twenty years ago. They cover the period from 1866 to the inauguration of Presi-